

Construction Career Pathway

MISSOURI ECONOMIC RESEARCH & INFORMATION CENTER
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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What are Career Pathways?

Career Pathways are groups of occupations within a career field. Occupations within a pathway share common skills, knowledge, and interests. The pathways use industry-recognized credentials and are examples of how different levels of training or education can help provide opportunities for career advancement.

Missouri Numbers:

 **16,447 Employers**

 **138,883 Workers**

 **\$69,565 Average Wage**

Why Have a Career in Construction?

The Construction industry represents 5.7 percent of total private sector employment in Missouri, employing over 138,000 workers in more than 15,000 businesses in 2022. Average annual wages in this industry are \$69,565, higher than the state average of \$54,520 for all industries.

Missouri generally has lower industry concentration in Construction as compared to the United States. Employment in this industry has been steadily growing, increasing 2.6 percent per year from 2017 to 2022.

Along with formal training in community colleges and technical schools, many construction occupations, such as Carpenters, Bricklayers, and Cement Masons can be mastered through paid apprenticeships. From Laborers to Engineers, there are a variety of careers in the Construction fields of Skilled Trades, Engineering, and Quality Control.

Know the Basics

Construction depends heavily on delivering solidly built structures on a deadline so the ability to plan, schedule, and follow directions while working on a team is important. Safety and quality control are also a critical part of this industry. Soft skills, such as interpersonal skills, professionalism, and dependability, are important in all industries and occupations, including Construction.

Skills needed for Success:

Construction has a set of industry-wide technical competencies that represent the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in this industry. Some of the skills that may be needed for success in Construction are craftsmanship, both building and construction design, building, and installation, as well as business fundamental skills such as contracts, budgeting, and cost estimating.

Who's Hiring in Missouri?

CDM Smith

J.E. Dunn Construction

The Turner Corporation

Midtown Home Improvements

Bluescope Building



Skilled Trades

Now

Short-Term On-the-Job Training

Construction Laborers
Entry: \$36,660 Average: \$52,150

Engineering & Quality Control

See Next and Later categories for job opportunities in Engineering & Quality Control

Next

Certificate, Associate Degree, Apprenticeship, Moderate- to Long- Term On-the-Job Training

Plumbers
Entry: \$46,230 Average: \$65,950

Electrical & Electronics Drafters
Entry: \$51,680 Average: \$69,090

Carpenters
Entry: \$44,350 Average: \$58,340

Architectural & Civil Drafters
Entry: \$47,160 Average: \$59,870

Electricians
Entry: \$47,940 Average: \$64,400

Mechanical Drafters
Entry: \$46,380 Average: \$59,520

HVAC Mechanics & Installers
Entry: \$39,520 Average: \$60,270

Certificates: Plumbing, Carpentry, Electrician, HVAC Engineering Technology/Technician

Degrees: Engineering
Certificates: CAD Certification

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

Construction Managers
Entry: \$78,330 Average: \$104,860

Electrical Engineers
Entry: \$78,680 Average: \$102,840

Cost Estimators
Entry: \$48,870 Average: \$72,400

Civil Engineers
Entry: \$66,100 Average: \$91,950

Degrees: Construction Management, Business Administration and Management

Degrees: Engineering

Sources:

Lightcast™

Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse

2022 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Top employers data is based on 2022 online job ads



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